
SD Board of Massage Therapy Information & Updates

Volume 3 Issue 1

PO Box 1062
Sioux Falls, SD 57101-1062

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Continuing the Education on Continuing Education (CE)

Eight (8) hours of continuing education (CE) is required every two years upon license renewal. Only 4 of those hours may be by electronic means (see next column). Also, the 8 hours must be earned during the immediate last two years of licensure. No other time period is applicable.

If you were licensed in an **EVEN-NUMBERED** year, your CE is due every even-numbered year. If you were licensed in an **ODD-NUMBERED** year, your CE is due every odd-numbered year.

Acceptable / Compliant CE

ARSD20:76:03:04. Qualifying activities. A qualifying activity is any course with a clear purpose and objective which maintains, improves, or expands the skills and knowledge relevant to massage therapy of the human body. Qualifying activities must meet the definition of massage therapy pursuant to §36-35-1(2) or be education presented by an approved provider of the National Certification Board for Therapeutic Massage and Bodywork or American Medical Massage Association, or both.

§36-35-1. (2) "Massage," the systematic mobilization of the soft tissues of the body through the application of hands or devices for the purposes of therapy, relaxation, or education through means which include:

- (a) Pressure, friction, stroking, rocking, kneading, percussion, compression, or stretching;
- (b) External application of water, heat, cold, lubricants, or other topical agents; or
- (c) The use of devices that mimic or enhance actions done by hands;

So when you are considering a training, look to see if it is presented by an NCBTMB and/or AMMA approved provider. If the answer is no, look to see if the training will teach you hands-on systematic mobilization of the soft tissues of the body (as defined in §36-35-1(2)). Therein lies the answer.

You should notice that "**Qualifying activities**" does not include being the presenter, or college courses.

Animal Massage Not Compliant

The license issued by this State is not for animal massage therapy. The Board's Mission is to protect the public consumer of massage therapy. Therefore, continuing education in animal massage therapy is not compliant even if the training is presented by an NCBTMB or AMMA approved provider.

Continuing Education (CE) by Electronic Means

According to §36-35-19, only 4 of the eight CE hours may be by electronic means. These limited four hours include any self-studies you order online to complete at home. If you are not leaving your home to complete hands-on continuing education, then the hours you are doing at home are considered electronic means and are limited to only four (4) out of the eight (8) hours required biennially. Self-study activities include internet courses, reading books or articles, or video/audio tapes and are not allowed unless testing or examination with formal, recorded passing scores are obtained.

More on CE, page 2

Reiki Is Not Massage Therapy

The founding Board of Directors went on record April 18, 2006 stating that Reiki **is not** massage therapy and the current Board went on record with their agreement at their April 16, 2009 board meeting. Therefore, Reiki is not CE compliant (*unless the training was presented by an NCBTMB or AM-MA approved provider*).

Scrubs & Wraps

It was determined that the massage therapy law allows the licensee to provide wraps, scrubs, or the like **ONLY** if the licensee is trained in these services and **ONLY** if they fit within the massage therapy law, which is: “...*the systematic mobilization of the soft tissues of the body through the application of hands or devices for the purposes of therapy, relaxation, or education*”

The intent of your service cannot be for beautification or exfoliating purposes.

CE Certificates have been submitted whereas the service/treatment is for beautification..., topical treatment of the skin... These services are outside the massage therapist laws and infringe on the Cosmetology laws. In these cases, you can be subject to their complaint process.

Record Keeping

Create a permanent CE file to secure your records. Additional supporting documents may be required (see Administrative Rule below).

ARSD20:76:03:05. **Record keeping.** The licensee shall maintain records to support credits claimed. These records must be maintained for two years after the date of renewal. A licensee shall keep the following records:

- (1) A brochure or flyer showing the type of activity, sponsoring organization, location, duration, instructor's or speaker's name, and contact hours earned; and
- (2) Attendance verification records in the form of completion certificates or other documents supporting evidence of attendance.

Acceptable Proof of Continuing Education Requirements

ARSD20:76:03:03. **Verification.** Upon license renewal, a licensee shall verify under the penalties of perjury that all contact hour information, which shall be submitted in the form of copies of the certificates of completion, is true and correct. The licensee must supply sufficient detail to permit audit verification if notified by the board of an audit.

The standard proof of continuing education is in the form of a **Certificate**. The Certificate should document all relevant information, and the minimum being:

- Title of Program/Workshop
- Sponsoring Organization
- Name of Participant
- Date of Program/Workshop
- Location of Program/Workshop
- Number of Hours Earned
- Presenter / Instructor Name

Let your presenter know these are the requirements for your licensing board and require a Certificate from them.

REGISTRATION FORMS, COPIES OF CANCELED CHECKS, PROGRAM AGENDAS, DATES OF PROGRAMS OFFERED, ETC. ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE—DO NOT SEND THEM IN PLACE OF THE REQUIRED CERTIFICATES! It will delay your license renewal.

Liability Insurance Required

SDCL 36-35-21. Professional liability insurance coverage. Any person holding a valid license under this chapter and engaged in the practice of massage therapy shall carry professional liability insurance coverage with limits at or in excess of the minimum amount established by the board.

Licensees must maintain Professional Liability Insurance of at least \$250,000 for the duration of the license. You ARE required to show proof of current insurance upon renewal. Association membership certificates are NOT proof of insurance coverage.

License Renewal Process

A licensee renews almost every day of the week, every week of the year!

Since a license is mandatory for practicing massage therapy, **the law requires you to be Renewed at least 30 days prior to your Expiration date.**

The office mails the Annual Renewal Form by the first of every month for the licensees due in 30+ days. Some licensees will receive the Renewal Form 30 days prior to the Due Date, whereas the others may receive it as early as 45 days prior to the Due Date.

For Example: License Issue Date 7/15/09
Renewal Due Date 6/15/10
Renewal Form Mailed 5/1/10
License Expiration Date 7/15/10

You must take the responsibility to be aware of your Annual Renewal Due Date.

According to the law, there is an **additional \$75 LATE FEE if you miss your license DUE DATE!**

Anyone not renewed by their Expiration Date will lose their license and have to apply for a license and meet current requirements.

- We are not responsible for any mailing problems or delays with the postal service.
- You cannot renew until you have received your Renewal mailing.
- You must send the Renewal to the correct address found on the Renewal Application.
- You must answer every question on the Renewal Application or your renewal will be delayed.

Display of License is Law

SDCL 36-35-8. Display of license. Any person engaged in the practice of massage in this state shall conspicuously display a valid license or certified duplicate license from the board in the person's place of business.

Contact Information for the SD Board of Massage Therapy

Joyce M. Vos, Executive Secretary
PO Box 1062
Sioux Falls, SD 57101-1062
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<http://doh.sd.gov/boards/massage>
Ph 605 / 271-7103

All board, licensing, regulatory, inquiries, etc. should be directed to the Board office.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Rebecca Dykema, LMT - President

Avera St. Lukes Hospital
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Laura Woitte, LMT - Vice President

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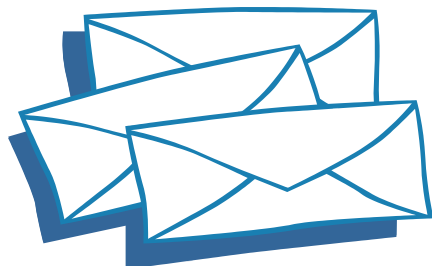
Public Member
Pierre, 605 / 224-1366

Mission Statement

The mission of the South Dakota Board of Massage Therapy is to protect the health and safety of the public by licensure of qualified persons and enforcement of the statutes, rules, and regulations governing the practice of Massage Therapy, including processing and investigating properly filed complaints and holding hearings as warranted.

SD Board of Massage Therapy
PO Box 1062
Sioux Falls, SD 57101-1062

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



**PLEASE KEEP US INFORMED OF ANY
HOME MAILING ADDRESS CHANGES**

Your home address is where all your license-related mailings will be sent. It would be unfortunate if important licensure mail is unable to reach you. Thank you!

Inactive License Status

At renewal time - prior to expiration - a licensee has the option of paying the \$65 fee, filing their license Inactive, and NOT practice massage therapy for an undetermined amount of time. The form can be found on the website under Licensing or go to <http://doh.sd.gov/Boards/Massage/PDF/InactiveLicForm.pdf>.

ARSD 20:76:06:01. **Inactive license.** An inactive license has no expiration date and can be activated by paying the current license fee and providing proof of at least eight hours of continuing education acceptable to the board in the two-year period preceding the activation request.

The Inactive licensee does not pay the annual renewal fee, or present proof of continuing education or liability insurance until they want to resume practicing massage therapy. At that time, the Inactive licensee contacts the office to request the Application to Re-Instate Inactive License.

Practicing Massage Therapy Requires Mandated State License

Practicing and advertising as a massage therapist without a South Dakota license are Class I Misdemeanors and carry \$1,000 civil penalties each per SD Codified Laws 36-35-10 & 36-35-11. The Board will pursue all legal avenues available, including the initiation of a formal investigation and/or legal proceedings.